IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of
    Fabry, Christian, et al.   :
                                                 :   Art Unit:
Serial No.   :
                                                 :   Examiner:
Filing Date: :
                                                 :
Attorney Docket No. P-1027   :
                                                 :
For: MICROBIAL ACTIVATION OF   :
    LAYER SILICATES   :

Box Patent Application
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In the Claims

The translation of the priority document (Exhibit A) which is submitted as the application contains two sets of claims: a first set on pages 21 and 22 (Claims 1-17) and a second set on pages 24 and 25 (numbered Claims 1-16). Please cancel all of these claims and add new Claims 17-41 which are attached as Exhibit B to this Preliminary Amendment.

In the Specification

Attached as Exhibit C is a copy of the translation of the Specification with handwritten amendments noted therein.

Exhibit D is a clean copy of the specification incorporating the amendments to the translation of the specification and new Claims 17-41. The new Claims 17-41 are on pages 21-23. Finally, the Abstract page has been renumbered as page 24.

Discussion

The applicants have amended the original specification (Exhibit A) in the manner shown in Exhibit C. After incorporating these changes into the specification, the applicants offer Exhibit D as the amended specification for review by the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

CONCLUSION

The applicants believe all claims are now in condition for review.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments: Exhibits A-D

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service in an envelope as Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," mailing Label Number **EK985526267US**, addressed to Box PCT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, Attention: EO/US.

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